THE HAMMER AND THE PENDULUM New Theories on Earth Catastrophes

Richard Noone, author of 5/5/2000, explains two exciting theories that consider the fundamental forces that shape our planet's geology.

Part 2 of 2

by Richard W. Noone © 1998

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A SOLUTION TO THE DILEMMA: A UNIFYING THEORY

et's take a look at why the development of a unifying theory should be—or, more precisely, why it should have been—a major item on the discussion table of all universities and corporate boardrooms and in the minds of all Earth science researchers. The best means at hand for us to do this is to take a detailed look at the quandary we're in for not having done it years ago.

The most obvious concern is that we can see the consequence of catastrophe but we can't explain it. There are many natural circumstances of catastrophic origin that are discussed openly in our schools and appear in our books, that we can use as examples; however, the feature that is common to them all is that there are no explanations! Let's consider a few, and examine them in light of the new theories that have been advanced that offer reasonable solutions.

The origin of the heat within the Earth has been the subject of ongoing investigations for a long time. The German-born American seismologist Beno Gutenberg (1889–1960), who worked with Charles Richter in developing the Richter scale, is quoted by Charles Hapgood in his book, *The Path of the Pole*:⁸

Several hypotheses have been proposed to explain the origin of the earth's internal heat, but at present only two fundamental heat sources are postulated: radioactivity and gravitational contraction...a vast amount of research has been devoted to this subject, but the fact remains that the origin and maintenance of the earth's internal heat continues to be one of the outstanding unsolved problems of science.

This is an excellent case in point. Here we have an outstanding, unsolved problem of science that has already consumed vast amounts of research time and money, and we are nowhere! We have nothing! The reason should be obviously clear. The current working theories simply do not embrace this circumstance. But I wouldn't want the question to go unanswered, so I want to give you an answer here.

We've been talking about the Rotational Bending Effect (the RB-Effect) in terms of its candidacy as the unifying theory, and I see an opportunity for its application here. So while addressing the question of Earth's internal heat, author James Bowles uses the process by which we break a piece of wire as an example in his book, *The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid*:9

When we try to break off a piece of wire from a coat hanger we bend it back and forth, wanting to fatigue the wire so it will break, wear it out as it were. It doesn't work very well, not because that isn't a good way to go about it, but because bending the wire back and forth changes the structure of the metal, it work-hardens it. The hardening comes about because the internal friction from the bending heats the wire and hardens it in the process. We should keep this idea of frictionally induced heat from bending in mind, because it applies to the earth as well. [Author's emphasis.]

The RB-Effect causes the Earth's crust to flex continuously (not unlike the wire example), day after day, year after year, millennium onto millennium, and the heat brought on by this continuous flexing heats the upper reaches of the crust, just as Bowles suggests.

Another dilemma of science concerns the Hawaiian Islands chain. It breaks the surface of the Pacific Ocean in an apparent arc whose form has been variously described as the outgrowth from a volcanic hot spot moving beneath a stationary crust and, alternatively, as that from the crust moving across a stationary hot spot. We want to examine these respective theories for their analysis, but, before we do, we should give thought to whether these opposing views are reconcilable under a single unifying theory.

APRIL – MAY 1999 NEXUS • **29**

In contemplating this, we would like to discourage the consideration of any theory that would depict a *process* as its theme, because a process is simply a *recipe* for change and offers no solution. Behind the recipe are the ingredients, and behind the ingredients are their biological beginnings, and behind their biological beginnings are the forces that put them into residence—and this is really where we want to be! So, by definition, a unifying theory must be one that describes the *forces* that put the system into motion. This has been put in concise language by James Bowles, who is a retired civil engineer and physics teacher: 10

...a force, and only a force can produce motion. Energy can't do it, neither can momentum or inertia... Nature must convert the influence to a force before there can be any motion

or work performed... If there is motion, i.e., if the wind is blowing, or the clouds are moving, whether the Himalayan mountains are rising, or we see a streak of lightning, we know a force has caused it. This principle is so fundamental, so straightforward in its implications, that it is a pure waste of a person's time and energy to worry about any of it until the forces involved have been identified. It is fundamental!

The insistence that a unifying theory has its foundation based on forces is also expressed in the same apt form by Mac Strain: Scientists would like to reduce the explanation of each phenomenon into a fundamental equation... If we were to reduce the Dynamic Axis Theory into a fundamental equation, it would have to be F = ma...

There is an elemental beauty in this doctrine, in that whenever motions are delineated and forces defined, we can describe the event with elemental certainty and arbitrate the cause. Who, if I may paraphrase Professor Thomas Henry Huxley, would withhold agreement? There is not a single scientist, engineer, physicist or mathematician in the entire world who would challenge the primacy of forces to accomplish work—and for the inner cellular forces of a tiny seed to crack the shell and produce a sprout, this is a feat of work, pure and simple. It is simply outside the realm of debate!

There is a corollary beauty derived from this axiom, in that force and motion actually *define* the concept of work, and, sequentially, work *defines* the level or the expenditure of energy.

THE EARTH'S SHIFTING AXIS N' is the new position for the rotational axis and E' is the new equator. Northern zone Northern of depression zone of for N elevation for N' F Typical Southern pattern for zone of elevated or elevation depressed for N' Southern zone zones. of depression N' for N

Figure 6: The concept of Mac Strain's Dynamic Axis Theory, showing zones of elevation and depression.

Interestingly, however, it is *impossible* to move backwards through the realm of energy to produce work, hence to produce motion, even in a tiny sprout, without converting to a force first. As before, there is not a single scientist, engineer, physicist or mathematician in the entire world who would challenge the primacy of this axiom. It is simply outside the realm of debate! It should be strongly emphasised that any scientific theory that bases its explanations for motive powers on energy sources is in serious need of revision.

There are other natural events and circumstances whose explanations are outside of the scope of orthodoxy, not the least of which are the origins of earthquakes, volcanoes, the Earth's magnetic field, the ice ages, fossils on mountain-tops, trees on ocean

bottoms, sandy ocean beaches at 15,000-foot elevations, ancient coral in northern ocean waters and, one of the most obvious of all, the terrain around Lake Titicaca in the Peruvian Andes.

Here, in the history of Lake Titicaca, lies one of the best records of catastrophic Earth changes in existence. The lake, about 140 miles long by 70 miles wide, is situated 360 miles east of Nasca, as the crow flies, and lies right on the border between Peru and

Bolivia at an elevation of about 12,500 feet. Graham Hancock, author of the best-selling *Fingerprints of the Gods*, ¹² tells the story, which I paraphrase:

Though now more than two miles above sea level, the area around Lake Titicaca is littered with millions upon millions of fossilised sea shells. This suggests that at some stage the whole of the Altiplano was forced upwards from the sea bed. It has retained, until the present day, ocean marine rather than freshwater fish and crustacea, and the lake's extent appears to have fluctuated enormously, indicated by the existence of an ancient strand line visible on much of the surrounding terrain. Much harder to explain is the irrefutable evidence that the city of Tiahuanaco was once a port, complete with extensive docks, positioned right on the shore of Lake Titicaca. Tiahuanaco's ruins are now marooned about 12 miles south of the lake and more than 100 feet higher than the present shore line.

SEA MOUNTS AND HOT SPOTS

Let's go back now and look at the circumstance of the Hawaiian Islands arc that we mentioned earlier. Mac B. Strain, now retired, was a professional civil engineer with the US Geological Survey, National Mapping Division. He'd held previous positions as Chief of the Technical Service Unit and as Chief of the Technical Planning Section, among other similar positions. His book, *The Earth's Shifting Axis*, introduces a concept that he calls the Dynamic Axis Theory.

This theory suggests that the Earth's rotational axis, in an otherwise stable planetary mould, shifts position, forcing a new equatorial definition. In consequence, there are corresponding changes in elevation at all latitudes associated with the shift meridian. Critical to this concept is the theory of the existence of magma seas whose radial influence puts pressure upon the underside of the crust. This pressure, by Strain's analysis, creates tensile stresses that initiate crustal fracturing and magma intrusions, and relates to the theory of magma upwelling in crustal spreading zones along mid-ocean ridges.

Strain is explicit in his announcement—and he has my full endorsement—that these magma-sea intrusions are totally incapable of propelling the crust in any lateral dimension whatsoever.

30 • NEXUS APRIL – MAY 1999

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(The concept of lateral crustal motion powered by thermal energies and magma intrusions is, as you'll recall, part and parcel of plate tectonic theory and, by implication, of Uniformitarianism.)

Strain describes the Hawaiian circumstance:13

Extending north-northwest from the Hawaii Islands is a row of seamounts that led scientists to the hypothesis that the crust moves over a fixed hot spot in the asthenosphere. Inspection of

the National Geographic Society's Physical Map of the Pacific Ocean reveals the existence of several aligned chains of seamounts. The Hawaiian Ridge from Midway Islands to Hawaii is the most prominent... The Emperor Seamount Chain appears to be an exten sion of the Hawaiian Ridge but with a dog leg, giving it a more northern alignment.

Strain points out that if these two chains were created by the same hot-spot grouping and by the same crustal motions, they should be near parallel. But the physical evidence provided by the National Geographic Society's map of the Pacific Ocean bottom clearly shows that they are

not! This, in turn, he suggests, makes it difficult to accept the notion that they were created by tectonic motions. Strain then introduces an alternative concept: a system of slow-moving, atmospheric-like "magma tornadoes" whose random movement at the lower crustal interface would not only give an accounting for the non-parallel alignment of the seamounts, but would provide an explanation for other short-lived events that have formed small, randomly positioned mounts on the ocean floor, for which orthodox science has no explanation.

The dynamics suggested by plate tectonic theory in relation to the Pacific seamounts is also discussed in a 1992 Scientific American article, titled "Dynamics of Kilauea Volcano", by Dvorak, Johnson and Tilling:14

The "Mystery of Kilauea", the age pattern of the Hawaiian Islands and other analogous mid-plate volcanoes were explained by J. Tuzo Wilson as the "slow march of the seafloor over a deep-seated, relatively fixed upwelling of molten rock in the Earth's mantle", which he termed a "hot spot".15 He postulated that as the Pacific plate drifts to the northwest, "the hot spot creates a linear succession of volcanoes".16

While acknowledging that the mantle plume model does not identify where the hot-spot magma originates, 17 Wilson sug-

gested that the hot-spot grouping feeds magma to five volcanoes.18 This mechanism, which combines thermal energies with Archimedes' principle (though not naming them as such), is offered as the driving influence for this process. The article con-

As solid material ascends from the deep, it undergoes a tremendous decrease in pressure. The reduced pressure enables some previously solid material to melt. Because of its lower density, the lighter, melted fraction of the rock moves upward, separating from the solid residue as it rises...

This rising magma, called *lava* at the surface, forces its way through the solid upper mantle "by creating and flowing through lens-shaped cracks" to feed the heat and material for volcanic eruptions.²⁰ So here we have a process that on the surface seems to answer the question. However, recalling that a process is simply a recipe for change, we can see that this formula falls short in explaining where the hot magma originates or whence the heat that powers the system comes.

the forces?

FORCES, WORK AND ENERGY

How, then, do we reconcile the fact that

the arcs exist, that we can see lava flowing

during an eruption, and that in the case of all

too many volcanoes we can see the explo-

sive power of pent-up pressures? Where,

then, if not in the energy of the system, are

moments and the associated vibrational,

fretting and underplating activities associat-

ed with the RB-Effect (see figures 4, 5, 7, 8,

9). These are all gravitationally induced by

the Sun, the Moon and, to a lesser extent,

the other planets in the system, and as such

they are feeding the Earth's internal system.

They are external forces, i.e., gravity acting

The answer is in the forces, the bending

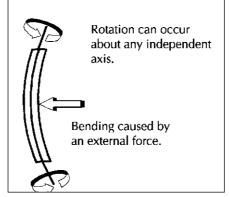


Figure 7: Rotational Bending in a simple beam. (From The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid,

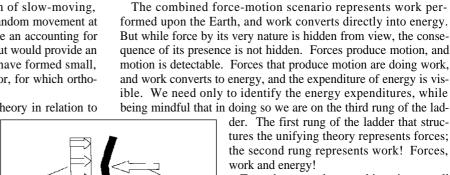
by James Bowles; reprinted with permission.)

some scientists have called "tidal waves within the crust". The combined force-motion scenario represents work performed upon the Earth, and work converts directly into energy. But while force by its very nature is hidden from view, the consequence of its presence is not hidden. Forces produce motion, and motion is detectable. Forces that produce motion are doing work, and work converts to energy, and the expenditure of energy is visible. We need only to identify the energy expenditures, while

upon the Earth's mass, and they produce motion within it, which

der. The first rung of the ladder that structures the unifying theory represents forces; the second rung represents work! Forces, work and energy!

To make an analogy at this point, we all recognise that an automobile engine provides the motive power to each of the respective systems within the vehicle. The wheels, for instance, through the transmission, the air conditioning, power steering and alternator are all belt- or gear-driven and they in turn distribute the forces produced by the engine. So, whereas we can easily relate to the primary force produced by the engine, we are incomplete in our thinking if we ignore the apportioned forces associated with these other systems.



Reaction

Loading

Figure 8: A simple bar, in-bending as though acted upon by gravity and supported by the Earth's inner plastic layer. (From The Gods. Gemini, and the Great Pyramid, by James Bowles; reprinted with permission.)

THE EARTH'S BALANCING ACT

Gravitational

Forcing

With this in mind, let's go back to the RB-Effect and see how this force is apportioned between the systems it drives. There are two of particular interest: one is the system that breaks the crustal ties, and the other is the system that officiates over the ongoing readjustment of surface elevations.

Neither of these systems, until the RB-Effect was discovered by Bowles and defined in *The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid,* has ever been investigated in terms of the initiating force. So this will be the first time this concept, in terms of a unifying theory, has ever been presented outside of the book itself.

APRIL - MAY 1999 **NEXUS** • 31

Simply stated, the RB-Effect is brought about by the continual rotation of the Earth within the gravitational fields of the Sun, the Moon, and—on 5/5/2000—by the alignment of the combined planets in our solar system. Bowles writes:21

We rotate, tilted at an angle of 23° 27', while the moon, pulling relentlessly at us, circles. With no change in time we orbit the sun and again we experience the relentless pull of gravity. The combined gravitational effects from the sun and the moon, and to a lesser extent that of the planets, pull at the crust from this oblique angle, relentlessly wearing the crust down until it is wrested from its moorings and fails from fatigue. We're being torn apart. It is from the effects of Rotational Bending that a weakening bond in a zone just below the crust, called the 'plastic zone', forms and allows the crust to separate from the inner mantle. Once the inner ties between the crust and the inner mantle are broken, cen trifugal forces acting on the great masses of ice at the poles move the crust [toward the equator] in a crashing search for equilibrium. Eventually stability is found and the [major shifting] event comes to a halt, but the effects are devastat ing. The most devastating are the waters. Hundred-mile-anhour walls of ocean water sweep the latitudes, killing every thing in their wake. The destruction is beyond imagination, but there have been survivors.

Bowles reminds the reader that the Moon's orbit about the Earth is not synchronous with the Earth's orbit about the Sun, and the Earth responds in vibration. This vibration, Bowles points out, causes a condition known as "fretting" at all interface boundaries below the outermost crust. He relates the fretting process to a number of Earth processes:22

There has been much inter est shown in the continental root phenomenon and it has been awarded extensive investigation as a result.

Our interest in the phenomenon relates to the question of root origins because we believe that the growth areas are the breeding grounds for some earthquakes, and that a demon strable relationship exists between root growth and the processes of isostasy. So we'll take a look at these processes with an eye towards the RB-Effect and the fretting phenome non. The process is obviously continuous and apparently not very precise, as the continents are forever rising and falling as the mechanism hunts for a stable condition. It is a little like the balancing act we might see in a circus where the juggler will adjust his position under his charge in a hunt for its center of gravity.

The reference to earthquakes is not an idle eye-catcher. Their relationship to the RB-Effect and deep-earth vibrations was confirmed by independent researchers Dr Myeung Hoi Kwon and Dr Randal D. Peters:23

...we have almost continuously observed long-period oscilla tions of the Earth during January to August in 1990. Periods of those vibrations are correlated with more than ten of known long periods of spheroidal and torsional oscillations of the Earth which result from the occurrence of large earth quake. The amplitudes of the fluctuation we have observed

are correlated with the lunar synodic period—indication that they are driven by tidal forces...[i.e., the RB-Effect]

Bowles describes "fretting" as a heat-producing wear phenomenon that exists where low-amplitude vibrations exist between two mating surfaces, adding that it is adhesive in nature and is usually accompanied by corrosion that produces a chemical debris in its path. Vibration, he stresses, is its essential causative factor, and he gives this as an example:24

You've purchased a brand new pick-up truck and have installed a bed-liner to keep the bed clean. Now, six months later, you are taking the liner out to clean under it and, lo and behold, the bed looks like it has the measles. Everywhere the liner touched the bed, the paint is worn down to bare metal and only an unidentifiable residue remains. The condition was caused by fretting: slow vibrational agitation between the liner and the truck bed.

Fretting, Bowles reminds us, isn't just a condition, it is a solution. The unifying principle that bonds the theories of mantle roots, their origin and the condition of isostatic equilibrium together with the mechanism of "underplating", associated with the chemical debris left by friction—is "fretting", and Bowles calls the process Debris Controlled Hydrostatics.

If we applied debris-controlled hydrostatics to test whether the Himalayas were rising because of root growth rather than because

of a collision event with the Indian subcontinent (as suggested by the prevalent theory), then we would expect the average density of the mountain to be decreasing with time, since underplating deposits low-density material, and we would expect the central body of the mountain to be rising and the hinterlands to be sloping away radially—with further proof being demonstrated by a circumferential crack pattern rather than one that is parallel to the

coastline!

The two books I've been discussing—The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid, by James Bowles, and The Earth's Shifting Axis, by Mac B. Strain—both answer questions that have stalled the Earth science debates by offering proposals that advance a unifying theory. The two differ somewhat in terms of the ultimate answer, but they are unified in the question.

Both challenge the tenets of plate tectonic theory. Both challenge the popular notions that the ice ages were brought about by climatic anomalies and that drifting continents had anything to do with mountain-building. Both answer more questions than they raise, and both leave you with the conviction that if a theory resorts to a multiple-choice response, there is something drastically wrong with the theory.

Here is another example of where orthodoxy fails to provide satisfactory answers. Most earthquakes, it is said, occur within a few miles of the Earth's surface by the process of "brittle fracture and frictional sliding". But many scientists, dismayed at the inadequacy of this explanation, have asked how it is possible for rock to fracture and slip if the enormous pressures of the mantle rule out brittle fracture in the first place. 25 Clearly, there is no agreement!

In contrast to the *multiple-answer* theories, both of these

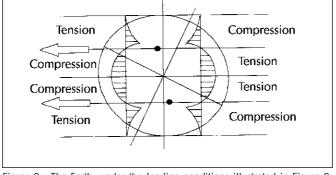


Figure 9: The Earth, under the loading conditions illustrated in Figure 8. The RB-Effect creates the tension-compression zones illustrated. (From The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid, by James Bowles; reprinted with permission.)

32 • NEXUS APRIL - MAY 1999 authors, Strain and Bowles, recognise that there is but one governing law that controls the powers of Nature, and it, like a ship's engine, drives the ship and its many internal functions. They stress that this law, which they call the Law of Nature: Force, Work and Energy, is in no way different from that published in any physics or mechanics handbook, except in its newness to applications in the Earth sciences and in the unique fact that its consequence is visible! Strain and Bowles express it in this man-

Forces, and only forces, control the power of Nature. Forces produce motion, and motion is detectable. Forces that produce motion are doing work, and work converts to energy, and the expenditure of energy is visible. Force, Work and Energy-nothing else works!

OUR VIOLENT PLANET: IS OUR CIVILISATION NEXT?

Dr Albert Einstein wrote the foreword to Prof. Charles H. Hapgood's book, Earth's Shifting Crust.²⁶ One sentence, in reference to a crustal shift, should be repeated today:

I think that this rather astonishing, even

fascinating, idea deserves the serious attention of anyone who concerns himself with the theory of the Earth's development.

I would say the same for the two books we have briefly glimpsed above. The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid and The Earth's Shifting Axis are works pleading for priority and careful study. They both contain original thinking on the geological behaviour of our planet and should stimulate scientific thought

Hapgood's extraordinary ability to marshal data from many diverse fields and put the information into a comprehensive and understandable form, makes his books, Earth's Shifting Crust, Maps of the Ancient Sea Kings: Evidence of Advanced Civilization in the Ice Age,27 and The Path of the Pole, excellent library resources for both reference and casual, exciting reading. In these books, Hapgood and other distinguished scholars like him collaborate on a world scale, connecting bodies of knowledge which would otherwise have been lost, abandoned or destroyed by today. Those who concern themselves with geology or history will find these invaluable works are riveting reading.

There are few records extant prior to 6,000 years ago. What we have instead, thanks to the great book-burners of history, are leg-

> ends, myths and folklore of cultures worldwide, which curiously agree as to past watery conflagrations and pole shifts.

> Given generational amnesia and the insistence of society to incorrectly diagnose its past, I sincerely hope that The Earth's Shifting Axis and The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid awaken a sleeping public. They both present undeniable evidence of worldwide geological catastrophes, and they make it clear that the great shifts of the past will at some point revisit us with geological upheavals of inconceivable violence.

> Common sense dictates that we should attempt to determine at what point in the

future we may expect another visit. How close in geological time are we to the next striking of The Hammer? With these thoughts, we are reminded of Charles Hapgood's appeal to follow one's "instinct to ask and to question", as made in his book, The Path of the Pole:28

Let me say a final word to the students, the young men and women in our colleges and high schools: the mysteries of the Earth beckon to you. What man now knows is little enough, and most of his general concepts in every field are vitiated by the artificial concepts he has created to cover his ignorance. These concepts must be destroyed. One tool exists that can accomplish this destruction, and this tool is in your hands. It is simply curiosity: the instinct to ask and to question. It should be kept sharp and used without mercy.

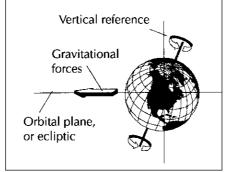


Figure 10: The Earth and the RB-Effect (from The Gods, Gemini, and the Great Pyramid, by James Bowles; reprinted with permission)

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